

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 49

Introduced by Assembly Members Stone and Maienschein
(Coauthors: Senators Emmerson and Yee)

April 18, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 49—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 49, as introduced, Stone. Foster Care Month.

This measure would declare the month of May 2013 as Foster Care Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In California there are approximately 60,000
2 children and youth in foster care who need and deserve safe,
3 permanent connections to loving adults, a stable home, and
4 adequate preparation for a secure future; and
5 WHEREAS, The needs of children and youth for belonging and
6 unconditional emotional commitment are best met in families; and
7 WHEREAS, Many California counties have successfully
8 supported permanent family connections for foster youth, provided
9 support for families at risk of entering the child welfare system,
10 and changed practices to fully engage youth, family, and
11 communities, thereby reducing the number of children in foster
12 care; and
13 WHEREAS, California recognizes the enduring and valuable
14 contribution of relatives and foster and adoptive parents who open

1 their hearts, families, and homes to vulnerable children and youth;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, California recognizes the numerous individuals
4 and public and private organizations that work to ensure that the
5 needs of children and youth living in and leaving foster care are
6 met, that help provide foster and former foster children and youth
7 with vital connections to their siblings, and that help launch young
8 people into successful adulthood; and

9 WHEREAS, The federal Fostering Connections to Success and
10 Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 offers opportunities to promote
11 permanent families for children in foster care, improve outcomes
12 for older youth in foster care, increase support for Native American
13 foster children, improve the quality of staff working with youth
14 in the child welfare system, expand our support of relative and
15 adoptive caregivers, and assist older youth in securing meaningful
16 supportive transitions from foster care; and

17 WHEREAS, This federal law affirms California's leadership
18 and success in pioneering innovative child welfare approaches;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, California is committed to working in partnership
21 with the federal government and local governments to improve
22 the lives and futures of all children and youth touched by the child
23 welfare system; now, therefore, be it

24 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
25 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares the month of
26 May 2013 as Foster Care Month; and be it further

27 Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.